

THE MOST REVEREND DR PETER FREDERICK CARNLEY

Citation for the conferral of a Doctor of the University (*honoris causa*)

The Council of Charles Sturt University has determined to confer the award, Doctor of the University (*honoris causa*), on the Most Reverend Dr Peter Frederick Carnley, AO.

In making its determination the Council recognised Dr Carnley's leadership in the Australian community and, in particular, in the Anglican Church, as well as his outstanding theological scholarship.

Peter Carnley was born in 1937 in New Lambton, New South Wales. He was educated at Young High School. He undertook studies in theology at The College of St John the Evangelist, Morpeth. St John's is now one of the partners in this University's School of Theology.

Peter Carnley graduated with First Class Honours in Theology in 1962. In that same year he was also ordained Deacon in the Diocese of Bathurst. In 1964 he was ordained Priest. He officiated as Priest in Melbourne and at St George's, Parkes.

In 1966 he moved to Cambridge as a research student to undertake a doctoral degree. He graduated Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Cambridge in 1970. His thesis was entitled "The notion of historical memory in the theology of John Knox".

Returning to Australia, Dr Carnley took up the positions of Lecturer in History at the recently established Mitchell College of Advanced Education and Anglican Chaplain to the College. He also served at this time as an Assistant Priest at All Saints' Cathedral in Bathurst.

From 1973 to 1981 he was warden of St John's College in the University of Queensland. During these years he also held the positions of Lecturer in Systematic Theology and Philosophical Theology in that University and of Canon of St John's Cathedral, Brisbane.

On 26 May 1981, Peter Carnley was consecrated as Bishop and installed as Archbishop of Perth, a position he still holds. Last year he was elected Primate of the Anglican Church of Australia.

Archbishop Dr Carnley has served as a member of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Commission on Communion and Women in the Episcopate; as a member of the Inter Anglican Theological and Doctrinal Communion and as a Visiting Professor in the General Theological Seminary, New York.

Dr Carnley has provided strong leadership and support for ecumenism and the cause of social justice. He has played a major role in building closer relations between the Anglican and Lutheran churches; He has been active in promoting dialogue between Christians and Jews and in 2000 became president of the Australian Council of Christians and Jews.

He was a leader in the movement for the ordination of women and one of the authors of the influential report on the ministry of women to the General Synod of the Church of England in Australia. The first ten women to be ordained to the priesthood in Australia were ordained by Archbishop Carnley in Perth on 7 March 1992.

As Archbishop, Dr Carnley has given vigorous expression to his conviction that the Church must contribute to the cause of social justice. He has been a prominent advocate for the anti-apartheid movement and for the cause of Aboriginal reconciliation. He has remained active in scholarship and has successfully promoted the engagement of theology with major themes of modern thought and culture.

His book, *The Structure of Resurrection Belief* is regarded as a major contribution to modern theological scholarship.

In 1998 Archbishop Carnley was made an Officer in the Order of Australia, for service to the Anglican Church of Australia and to the community through his contributions to theology, ecumenism and social justice.

Mr Chancellor, I present the Most Reverend Doctor Peter Frederick Carnley, AO, a son of the Central West of New South Wales, one who has served this region and the nation with distinction, through his contribution to scholarship and through his leadership of the Australian church, for admission to the degree of Doctor of the University (*honoris causa*).

Dated this Nineteenth Day of April Two Thousand and One